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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of: ) Date: April 18, 2003  
Frederick W. Ryan, Jr., et al. ) Attorney Docket No.: F-268  
Serial No.: 09/938,326 ) Customer No.: 00919  
Filed: August 23, 2001 ) Group Art Unit:  
Confirmation No.:

For: SECURE TAX METER FOR COLLECTING SALES AND/OR USE TAXES ON  
SALES THAT ARE MADE VIA THE INTERNET AND/OR CATALOG

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**RECEIVED**  
APR 24 2003  
**GROUP 3600**

Sir:

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information of which they are aware, which they believe may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56.

While this Information Disclosure Statement may be "material" pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to herein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(b) exists.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the

statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(b).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in accordance with the following provisions, as identified below with marked boxes, available under 37 CFR § 1.97:

1. ☒ 37 CFR §1.97(b) - This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed according to one of the following: (i) within 3 months of the filing date of this application (other than a CPA); (ii) within 3 months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application; (iii) before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits; or (iv) before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114.

OR

2. ☐ 37 CFR §1.97(c) - This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of any of a final action under § 1.113, a notice of allowance under § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and it is accompanied by the statement or fee as identified below:

2.1 ☐ Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1) - see below.

OR

2.2 ☐ Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(2) - see below.

OR

2.3 ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. **16-1885** in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the fee set forth in § 1.17(p).

**\*\* Provisional Fee Authorization.** If Box 2.1 or Box 2.2 is marked above and a final action under § 1.113 has in fact been mailed before the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. **16-1885** in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the fee set forth in § 1.17(p) as if Box 2.3 had been marked.

OR

3. ☐ 37 CFR §1.97(d) - This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed on or before payment of the issue fee and it is accompanied by the statement and fee as identified below:

3.1.1 ☐ Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1) - see below.

OR

3.1.2 ☐ Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(2) - see below.

AND

3.2 ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. **16-1885** in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the fee set forth in § 1.17(p).

Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1) - Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(2) - No item of information contained in

the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing below, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

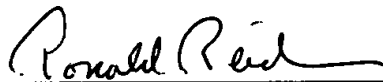
A list of the patent(s) and/or publication(s) is set forth on the attached Form PTO-1449 (Modified).

A copy of each of the items on PTO-1449 (Modified) is supplied herewith.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. **16-1885**.

A duplicate copy of this transmittal is enclosed for use in charging the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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Plus attachments: Form PTO-1449 (Modified)  
One copy of each of the references

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

On April 18, 2003  
Date of Deposit

Esther A. Lapin  
Name of Rep.

Esther A. Lapin  
Signature

April 18, 2003  
Date



FORM PTO-1449 (Modified)				Atty. Docket Number F-268		Serial No. 09/938,326	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>				Applicant Frederick W. Ryan, Jr., et al.			
				Filing Date August 23, 2001		Group	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAMINE R INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	H1,830	Jan., 2000				
	AB	5,644,724	July 1997				
	AC	5,509,064	April, 1996				
	AD	5,646,389	July, 1997				
	AE	5,903,876	May, 1999				
	AF	5,995,625	Nov., 1999				
	AG	5,968,110	Oct., 1999				
	AH	6,016,479	Jan., 2000				
	AI	6,038,548	March, 2000				
	AJ	6,041,317	March, 2000				
	AK	6,078,898	June, 2000				
	AL	6,141,650	Oct., 2000				
	AM	6,192,473B1	Feb., 2001				
	AN	6,199,049B1	March, 2001				
	AO	6,223,187B1	April, 2001				
	AP	6,311,171B1	Oct., 2001				
	AR	6,321,256B1	Nov., 2001				
<b>FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED PATENT APPLICATION DOCUMENTS</b>							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
	AS	EP1286291A1	Aug., 2002	EPO			
	AT	WO 96/36948	May, 1996	PCT			
	AU	WO 01/11843	Aug., 2000	PCT			



**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)**

	AV	AP And Vertex Form Partnership to Provide Client Server Software For Sales/Use Tax Compliance, March 12, 1996, PR Newswire
EXAMINER		DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance <u>and</u> not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.		